THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (c) There is no Gargara Halt. However, the Hon'ble Member may be referring to Garrah bridge near Shahjahanpur. The Garrah bridge-Shahjahanpur section is already double line except single line on Garrah bridge. The work of doubling of Garrah bridge has been included in the budget 2003-04 and preliminary activities have been taken up. The work is likely to commence during 2004-05 and would be completed in the coming years as per the availability of resources.

Use of steam engines to encourage tourism

†1203. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to increase the utilisation of steam engines to encourage tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of steam powered engines India is having at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Considering the heritage value and tourist potential of steam locomotives. Indian Railways have earmarked Nilgiri Mountain Railways and Darjeeling Himalayan Railways for running metre gauge and narrow gauge services respectively on steam traction. In addition, during 150th year of Indian Railways, steam loco hauled trains were run on Mumbai-Thane, Shimla-Kathleeghat, Bolaram-Monoharabad and Howrah-Bandel sections by reviving old steam locos.

(c) At present, 33 steam locomotives are working on Indian Railways.

Construction of new railway station in Delhi

†1204. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to construct a new railway station in the capital city, Delhi in view of increase in number of rail

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.